

# THE CAIRN ECHO

## CAIRN TERRIER CLUB OF NSW NEWSLETTER

March 2021



### We need you.

The Cairn Terrier Club of NSW is a small club made up of dedicated volunteers committed to promoting our wonderful breed. Your support as a member is vital in keeping the club running. Please renew or become a member by clicking on the link below.

Become a member by [clicking here](#)

### 2020 Club Show results

It was great to see the Cairn community come together to celebrate our fantastic breed at our annual show in October 2020.

COVID restrictions meant our Victorian breeders could not attend due to lock downs, which was disappointing. As a result we decided run the 2020 show on a smaller scale and to name the 2021 show as the Robert Bartram Memorial Show so that everyone can have the opportunity to attend it this year.

Here are the October 2020 show results, judge was Mrs D Fenton (NSW).

**Best in Show & BCC:** Barragan Do You Want To Dance - N Curwen

**RU Best in Show & DCC:** CH Koterana Toa - N Curwen & G Cruse

**Baby Puppy in Show:** Emeraldcity Dame Maggie Smith - G Loft

**Puppy in Show:** Emeraldcity Hugh Jackman - G Loft

**Junior in Show:** Barragan Do You Want to Dance - N Curwen

**Intermediate in Show:** Ch Barragan Bold As Brass - N Curwen & G Cruse

**Australian bred in Show & RBCC:** CH Calmaceile Big bang Rohini - K Stenning

**Open in Show & RDCC:** Sup CH Emeraldcity Ricky Ponting - G Loft & P Miller

**Veteran in Show:** Ch Koterana Toa - N Curwen & G Cruse

**Neuter in Show: GR** CH Craigend Royal Rogue - L Ross

# THE CAIRN ECHO

---

---

MR G CRUSE AND MR N CURWEN WITH JUDGE MRS D FENTON AND THE 2020 BEST IN SHOW AWARD



BARRAGHAN DO YOU WANT TO DANCE- BEST IN SHOW





## **CRITIQUES BY JUDGE MRS D FENTON, FOR CAIRNS AT THE 2020 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW**

Firstly, I wish to thank the Club for allowing me the honour of judging your Championship Show. The entries (and your judges) were impacted by COVID which was unfortunate, but the overall quality of those entered was evident.

An overview of the entry was that head quality was very good, ear placement correct. Medium size eyes with the typical overhanging eyebrows contributed to their alert and appealing expression with the girls feminine without coarseness. I found no poor bites with muzzle strength generally excellent. Hind quarters were also very impressive having strong muscular thighs and well-placed tails. Coats were in the main profuse and double. Some had longer outer coats, but the texture was harsh. I would have preferred better forequarter angulation in some which in turn gave the impression of length in body or long cast. This impacted on forequarter movement. Some did not appear to have the typical larger front than rear feet. If you were to ask me where I believe the improvements in the breed could be made it would be shoulder angulation.

I have critiqued briefly but you can refer to my comments above for what I mean by "good head" and alert/appealing expression.

### **BIS. Barragan Do You Want To Dance**

This young girl was well balanced with excellent shape. Her angulation fore and aft was excellent and her free-flowing movement a result of reach and drive. Her front movement coming toward me was true as was the rear. Deep rib and good prosternum. She has a double coat of excellent texture. Her head was feminine with good stop, powerful muzzle, good pigmentation, and nicely placed ears with alert expression. Workmanlike, natural appearance and a quality girl very much the style of Cairn that appeals to me.

### **RUBIS. Ch Koterana Toa**

This veteran dog had excellent conformation. You could imagine him in a working situation. He was compact with a very profuse, harsh weather resistant coat. The abundant coat tended to make him look a little more cobby than he was in examination. Well sprung and deep ribs, good prosternum and standing well forward on thick forefeet. His movement could not be faulted, true fore aft and side. Not a tall dog but balanced. His darker colour gave him a less appealing expression and if I were to be critical, I would have preferred a set on of ear to be higher.

## **CRITIQUES BY JUDGE MRS D FENTON, FOR CAIRNS AT THE 2020 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW**

### **Res Ch Dog. Sup Ch Emeraldcity Ricky Ponting**

A quality dog, lovely rear angulation and strength with good tail set, excellent coat texture. Moved very well. His head was correct with good ear placement, strong muzzle correct stop and good pigmentation. He had a "typical" Carin terrier expression. In profile he appeared slightly longer cast.

### **Res Ch Bitch. Ch Calmaceile Bigbang Robin**

This girl was again good shape, well angulated and moved true. Her double coat was harsh to touch and her head feminine with softer expression, good ear placement and strong muzzle.

### **Best Baby Puppy in Show**

**Emeraldcity Dame Maggie Smith** was the girl I awarded this to, there were three babies from the same litter and she in my view had the better conformation. She had a good front angulation which in turn gave her a balanced profile. She had a very feminine head and expression and although she was the least well behaved, I considered her the best of the three.

### **Puppy Dog.**

1. **Emeraldcity Hugh Jackman**. He was not too happy with the table but was happy for me to judge him. Good bite and teeth, head correct, feet slightly turning out (allowed) good weatherproof coat. Excellent rear and rear movement, still somewhat loose in the front.

### **Junior Dog**

1. **Collessie SirPaulMacartney**. This boy was another with good profile, excellent coat, and strong rear end. Liked his head, strong muzzle, alert expression and well-placed ears. A little loose in front which should tighten as he ages.

### **Intermediate Dog**

1. **Ch Barragan Bold As Brass At Mongterrez**. Well balanced with well set on tail, good conformation with good fore and aft angulation and very good movement. Thick harsh double coat

### **Australian Bred dog**

1. **Emeraldcity St Petersburg**. At the risk of repeating myself, another with great rear end, correct coat, typical head with good ear placement. Would like slightly more angulation to front as he appeared a little long cast.

### **Open Dog Res Ch (critique above)**

## **CRITIQUES BY JUDGE MRS D FENTON**

### **Veteran Dog**

1. RUBIS (critiqued above)

2. Ch Koterana Hadlee. 9 ½ yr old. Would like better angulation in front, coat open but expected in an older dog, great rear end and tail set.

Thank you for entering him.

### **Baby Puppy Bitch**

1st Baby In Show

2nd Duncairn Wildfire. Another well-proportioned puppy, lovely head and expression and moved well. Will have a successful show career I am sure.

3rd. critiqued with BBIS

The unplaced baby deserves to be mentioned. She was the youngest in the class and as such had a puppy coat and was giving a lot away to the older puppies. I thought she was also a lovely puppy and will I am sure have a very successful show career.

### **Junior Bitch.**

1. Best In Show

2. Murtagh I Want It I Got It. She was not amenable to handling but observation points to a good quality Cairn

Intermediate Bitch.

1. Joymont Matilda Rose. A brindle bitch, well-constructed, appealing head and expression, well placed ears, out of coat. Movement better than second placed girl.

2. Abbeycairn Hermoine Granger. Again, good rear, head and expression goo, Moved towards me wider in front than first bitch.

### **AB Bitch**

1. Res Ch Bitch (critique above)

2. Barragan Eyes on the Prize. Excellent head, good profile, a little out of coat, was moving closer in front than first place winner.

3. Emeraldcity Emma Peel. Somewhat overweight although later told she was mother of 3 of the baby puppies so there is an excuse. Unfortunately, the weight affected her top line. Otherwise a quality bitch.

### **Open Bitch.**

1. Emeraldcity Paris France. Also living in a good paddock but I liked her head and expression, would have liked more shoulder angulation, rear very good. Movement was free flowing.

### **Veteran Bitch**

1. Ch Kalan Kusmi - 12 years old and a credit to her owner. A good shape and profile, good conformation with an excellent double weatherproof coat. She had a very good head and expression. Her movement has slowed as you would expect given her age. Thank you for bringing her out for me to judge.

### **Open Neuter Dog.**

1. Grand Neut Ch Craigend Royal Rogue. Loved this dog, so much the style I remember from my training days. A pleasant surprise to read his Grand Ch status and his breeding. Now somewhat overweight with top line not as straight as ideal, he had very well sprung ribs, strong thighs, good feet, and correct coat texture. Again, thank you for bringing him to me to judge.

**Diana Fenton**



## INTERVIEW: 'THE CAIRNTASTICS' UK

I have been following the Cairntastics for a couple of years now, they are a UK based team of cairns and their handlers. I was lucky enough to watch them working with their dogs at Crufts earlier this year (doesn't that seem like forever ago?). They are part of a sport the UK Kennel Club created called Obreedience.

The aim of Obreedience is to showcase a breed and demonstrate the camaraderie that exists between breed clubs. A team of four handlers and four dogs of the same breed take part in two rounds of competition: Firstly, all team members complete a round of heelwork together as a group, and are scored on their ability to complete different moves and follow instructions whilst remaining synchronised with their team mates. Then, four set exercises are completed, with each team owner/dog duo undertaking an exercise each, choosing either: Retrieve (handler's own article); Send to Bed (own bed); Recall with Stop; or Scent (retrieval of handler's article with decoy articles present).

I had the opportunity to meet and interview two of the "Cairntastics" handlers, Andrea Bolden and Sue Drew who are regular and successful competitors in the sport. I asked them about their experiences and tips for training our Cairns in Australia. You can see a transcript of the interview [here](#)

The real theme I got from their interview is the perception that "cairns are hard to train" is due to them often being misunderstood, and that the key to training a cairn is to tap into their natural hunting instinct. The girls are lovely and so passionate about our breed, and I was delighted when they extended a paw across the water to our little club for any help they could give us. I must say it inspired me to think about ways to work with my dogs and more importantly how we can show the Australian public how awesome our dogs can be, and value their natural working instinct.

Finally for a giggle you can check out this video of cairns from Crufts 2017 - for any Cairn lover this a must see [click here](#)



### Current Team

Suzanne (Sue) Drew with Tycadno Thriller at L'Artiste (Oscar)  
Andrea Bolden with Tycadno Ruby Slippers (Ruby)  
Sandra Saunders with Sunnyglen Rapunzel (China)  
-Wendy Laker with Cannwood Call of Duty at Wizoz (Harris)  
Amanda Leek with Pumpkin Patch (Orwell)  
Gill Ellis with Lincoldy Wreck it Ralph (Ralph)

## CLUB SECRETARY'S REPORT

2020 was a challenging year for us all, and the Cairn Club was no exception.

Lockdowns and self isolation rules due to Covid-19 meant there were no meetings held, although club administration continued via email.

Activities that club members usually attended were also cancelled, such as the Bundanoon is Brigadoon highland gathering, the Pet expo in Sydney, A Pooch Affair in Canberra and more,

Our International judge was unable to travel to attend the Club show, and then the breed specialist judge from Victoria was unable to attend.

Replacement judges were required for the 2019 and 2020 shows, with the 2020 show going ahead on a smaller scale, with a Covid-19 Management Plan in place.

A new online membership form and payment system seems to have been well received by members with a significant increase in memberships paid in 2020-21. My thanks to our Treasurer, Scott King, and to our Communications/Publicity Officer Tara King, for their innovation and generosity in this area.

Our AGM has been delayed due to Covid issues, however it will take place on Tuesday 30 March 2021, online via ZOOM. The link to the meeting will be on the Clubs Facebook page and website, and all members are welcome. This allows our interstate club members to attend, and a greater participation in club management and broader range of ideas and feedback to be presented at meetings. I hope that this innovation will be continued as its benefits greatly outweigh any drawbacks.

After a challenging year and a half as Club Secretary (as no one else would take up the role), I am pleased to see that there is now renewed interest in the club committee and executive roles.

I wish to thank the President for his ongoing presence in the club, the Publicity Officer and Treasurer as previously mentioned, and the committee members who have continued to give of themselves in order to keep the club functioning. I know that each of you has had your own challenges during this time, so that I really appreciate the effort you have given to the Cairn Club of NSW management in 2019-20 and 2020-21.

To conclude, it has been an honour and a privilege to be the Secretary of this breed club, in order to support the breed that I love and strive to preserve.

*Ginnette Loft*



## A YEAR FOR TRYING NEW THINGS- BY SUE DREW UK

While 2019 was very focused on the Cairntastic Obreedience team, again successfully qualifying to compete among the top 10 teams at Crufts, I took the opportunity to try two new dog sports with my Cairns. I've learned more about training in general as a result, but also about working with, and around, some of their quirky breed traits.

### Scentwork

Ruby has achieved a lot in her 7 years – competitive Obedience, in both Crufts qualifying Obreedience teams, appearance in Kingsman, The Golden Circle and several obedience demonstrations so I decided 2019 was time to try something new. Ruby is extremely self-sufficient, I have had to work very hard to build a working relationship with her. While she has the most beautiful soul, she never really does anything for nothing, so teaching her a cue to switch on to work for a high value reward has been critical to our success in training anything, including a domestic recall away from wildlife distractions (which took 5 years!).

She is also very literal, which presents lots of challenges when training her in obedience type activities. If I get anything remotely wrong in my handling, she will stop working and give me a look that says “I have absolutely no idea what you’re talking about”. We attempted to cross over her obedience training to Rally but stopping in heelwork every 6 steps to do a trick was just not acceptable to her. Everything is on her terms, including when she will run and when she will not, which made agility training extremely embarrassing when she decided to sit in the middle of a curved tunnel and refuse to come out.

The joy of having a dog today, is that there are so many accessible dog sports to have fun with, that if one doesn't suit them, you can try something else.

Ruby has an amazing nose, she is a great huntress and has always been very good at the Obedience and Obreedience scent exercises so, when I saw Scentwork classes advertised locally, I decided that this may be just her thing. There are 8 levels in Scentwork UK competitions, which comprises of four search types; tables and chairs (with perimeter searching in the higher classes), boxes and luggage, exterior search of articles and vehicles (multiple vehicles after level 1). The levels increase in difficulty starting with clove scent and then later introducing gun oil and truffle oil, then distraction scents of vanilla and coffee. The number of searches also increases and the number of times they can be rewarded during a search. In the lower levels, the dog needs to indicate that it has found the right article or the right area, within 6 inches on the tables, chairs and vehicle. From level 3 onwards, the dog needs to offer a much stronger indication of whether the exact source of the scent is. At this stage the scent may be on a small piece of string or the head of a cotton bud, hidden out of sight so a freeze indication, holding a very still position with the nose or paw touching the source site of where the scent is hidden must be taught.



## A YEAR FOR TRYING NEW THINGS- BY SUE DREW UK

Ruby struggled a little at first because all previously taught scent exercises had involved retrieving an article. As she had also been taught lots of tricks, which included standing on and in boxes, if she couldn't retrieve an article from a box, she would start offering other known behaviours. It was important to teach her a freeze indication early to stop her getting frustrated. Again, Ruby's early obedience training which included a duration hand target was eventually transferred to offering a freeze (otherwise known as passive) indication, by holding a small pot with the scent in my hand, lowering it to the floor, holding it inside articles and then gradually taking my hand out of the picture. This season she gained her Levels 1 and 2 Excellent titles, two 1st places and 3 maximum scores of 200 points. Who says you can't train a Cairn?!



### Agility

Fortunate to have a competitive agility club, with top quality trainers, very local to where I live, I started training for agility almost a year ago in January with Ted, then just under 12 months old. The benefit of having spent the previous 10 months putting in the basics for domestic and competitive obedience paid dividends immediately. Unlike most of the other dogs in the early classes, Ted was able, sit and wait, come back when called and follow my directions. Most importantly, his large kitbag of tricks meant that I could keep him focused on me while waiting to run again, he had already learned how to learn and understood the concept of offering a behaviour in return for a reward. Ted by nature is confident but cautious, it took him a few attempts to trust that if he went into the scary tunnel, he would come out the other end. Like all Cairns he is a clever little chap and learns quickly, which is as much a challenge at times as it is a benefit. On one occasion, he crashed into the second jump on a course then finished the course like nothing had happened, but every time he ran a course for the next few weeks, he would run around the second jump. It took a lot of positive encouragement and reward to regain his confidence, but I found it really interesting that he was able to be very specific about one jump rather than generalising across all jumps.



## A YEAR FOR TRYING NEW THINGS- BY SUE DREW UK

9 months in and Ted was ready to try out at his first Steeplechase competition, in the middle of a very large park in Swindon. He set up beautifully, but as I walked past the first jump and prepared to call him to start over the first jump, I realised what a mistake I had made in choosing his name when the steward shouted "Ready?". Thinking she had called "Teddy", he ran over, expecting to be praised for such a smart recall and then jumped all over her like a complete hooligan when she was trying to shoo him away. The second attempt he flew around the 17-obstacle course like he was born to do it. A handling error from me meant that he missed one of the jumps, so we were eliminated on that occasion, but he ignored all other distractions and focused on his job. We've started working on the contact equipment, which he is equally taking completely in his stride and I'm excited about the coming season now that he is more mature, both physically and mentally. Time will tell whether we will enjoy Obedience or Agility more, his Obedience training is coming on nicely, so hopefully we can have a bit of fun with both.





## **CLUB INFORMATION AT A GLANCE**

### **OFFICE HOLDERS 2019-20**

President – Bob Robertson

Secretary – Ginnette Loft

Treasurer – Scott King

Vice President – Ian Westrup (recently retired)

Committee – Narelle Corfe, Kevin Byrne, Peter Miller,

Communications/Publicity – Tara King

Puppy Sales – Ginnette Loft

Patron – Rosemary Boyd

Show Managers – Kathryn Smith

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Secretary

Email: [ginnette.loft@bigpond.com](mailto:ginnette.loft@bigpond.com)

Ph: 0412217573

Postal: PO Box 1322

Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Communications/Publicity

Email: [tara@gocollaborate.com.au](mailto:tara@gocollaborate.com.au)

### **WEBSITE**

[www.cairnsnsw.com](http://www.cairnsnsw.com)

### **FACEBOOK PAGE**

Search on 'Cairn Terrier Club of New South Wales' or use this link: [www.facebook.com/groups/247431175963596](https://www.facebook.com/groups/247431175963596)